

dividing the Penn and Alford properties became a colonial road that is now known as Route 519.

Many historical events have happened since then in Belvidere. Belvidere has had roles to play in the French and Indian Wars, the American Revolution and the Industrial Revolution, just to name a few of its places in history.

Belvidere was founded largely because of its location at the confluence of the Delaware and Pequest Rivers. The rivers first attracted Indian villages, then 18th century settlers and made possible 19th century mills. Since 1824, Belvidere has been the county seat of Warren County and continues to be the focus of the county.

I'd like to mention some of the past residents of Belvidere who contributed to the town's heritage in ways that should not be forgotten:

Robert Patterson, a tinsmith who purchased land along the Pequest from William Penn in 1759, Patterson's wife had been killed and scalped by Indians in Pennsylvania during the French and Indian War and brought his son to New Jersey to escape the violence. Patterson's log house still stands as Warren Lodge 13 of the Free and Accepted Masons at the corner of Front and Greenwich Streets.

David Brainerd, a 26-year-old Presbyterian minister who came to Belvidere in 1744 to preach Christianity to the Indians. Brainerd was dying of tuberculosis but spent the remaining 3 years of his life at his work. Brainerd translated a number of prayers and Psalms into the Indians' language. In addition, he kept a journal and wrote several reports on the lives of both the local Indians and settlers, which are still of immense historical value today.

Robert Hoops, who in 1769 purchased 500 acres of land from Patterson and William Penn, giving him water rights to both sides of the Pequest. These water rights made possible the industrialization of Belvidere through a saw mill, grist mill, and small factories. When the industries began to thrive on both sides of the river, Hoops linked them with the first bridge across the Pequest.

Captain John Craig, who opened the American House tavern-stagecoach stop at 322 Market Street. During the Revolutionary War, it was Captain Craig who helped reveal the British Army's plan of attack on General George Washington's army as it retreated to Valley Forge in 1777.

There are many others, of course, who contributed to Belvidere's history. I cite these as only a few examples of the wealth of history in a small town that might easily be overlooked by the pages of history books.

At only 1.25 square miles and 2,600 residents, Belvidere is the smallest municipality in the county. But its importance in our county's history obviously goes far beyond its size. I congratulate Belvidere on its history and accomplishments, and wish all the people of Belvidere as equal amount of success in the town's future.

SALUTE TO AMANDA SZALASNY

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I salute an outstanding young woman from my congressional district, Amanda Szalasny. Amanda was recently awarded first place in the essay contest, "What the American Flag Means to Me," sponsored by the Legnard-Curtin American Legion post, which is located in Green Island, NY.

The American Legion has long supported efforts to educate young people about the flag and what it means to all Americans. Amanda Szalasny's essay reflects the values that the American Legion has always promoted.

WHAT THE U.S. FLAG MEANS TO ME

(By Amanda M. Szalasny)

To me the U.S. flag means liberty and independence. It is one of the most important things in all Americans lives. In the following paragraph, you will find out why I feel this way.

In 1777, the Continental Congress adopted a 13 star and stripe flag. This was a symbol of freedom, liberty, and independence of the United States. I think this flag is very important to all of us because without it, someone could overpower us easily. We wouldn't have the liberty or independence we do now. So many times, we see the flag and we don't even stop to think about how important it is to us. We barely give it the slightest glance. It is not only a piece of fabric, it is a symbol of our freedom and independence. We don't think about what we'd be without it. The flag should be looked at with respect and loyalty. So many times we hear the Star Spangled Banner and say the Pledge of Allegiance without thinking about what we're hearing or saying. What ever happened to the patriotism we used to show for our flag? Now we just hear the Star Spangled Banner and we don't even bother to really listen to this music or look at the flag as we hear it. We say the Pledge of Allegiance without that patriotism in our voice. We have to realize what these things all mean, and treat them with respect. I think our flag should be appreciated by everyone. I appreciate it and try to show the best patriotism I possibly can when I say the Pledge of Allegiance or hear the Star Spangled Banner. And most of all, when I look at our U.S. flag, I don't see just a piece of decorated fabric. I see a symbol of liberty, independence, and my country! I feel that if I do this, maybe others will follow.

In conclusion, I feel that our flag should be treated better because of all it represents. It represents us and I hope that patriotism for our flag will be shown more. Remember what it does for us.

GROUP PREFERENCES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, once again President Clinton's propensity for waffling has gotten the best of him. It was only a few months ago that he signaled serious reform of affirmative action was essential. Now, he supports the antiquated system of racial spoils that the American public no longer supports.

Thirty years ago, the civil rights movement began to ensure America's most fundamental ideals—individual liberty and equal justice under the law. Thirty years later, however, radical liberals have distorted the law and instituted quotas and set-asides. This amounts to nothing less than reverse discrimination.

My Republican colleagues and I are committed to fashioning legislation which will create real opportunities for those who need them most. I strongly believe that achievement does not come from heavy handed bureaucratic regulations or preferential treatment, but through equal opportunity and individual effort.

Mr. Speaker, I would warn President Clinton that the policies of the past are as divisive as the policies they sought to remedy. Last November the American people voted for change. His decision to support the status quo is a direct affront to their wishes.

FUNDING OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring up a matter which deeply troubles me. The House recently passed its version of the fiscal year 1996 Interior appropriations bill, H.R. 1977. In its deliberations many vital programs had to be prioritized and some were eliminated or reduced drastically. During those deliberations, there was no mention of the elimination of construction funding in the Smithsonian request for the National Museum of the American Indian Cultural Resources Center.

Let me explain why this facility is so important to Indian people. First, the collection, which was transferred to the Smithsonian in 1989 from the Heye Foundation in New York, is one of the finest collections of native American treasures in existence and a legacy for the future. Without adequate protection, these treasures could be lost forever. The principal reason for the original transfer of the collection was the dismal condition of the storage facility in New York. The New York building, where most of the collection is housed, is over 70 years old and in such poor condition that it places the collection in physical danger. The Smithsonian has made the transfer of the collection out of the New York facility and into the Cultural Resources Center one of its top priorities. There is no question that the transfer is necessary in order to protect this magnificent collection.

Second, and more importantly, the establishment and progress of the National Museum of the American Indian is a fulfillment of the promises that this Congress made to the Indian tribes. Although the Cultural Resources Center will house over 1 million native American objects it will also serve as a institution of living culture, and will provide training programs, research opportunities, and educational endeavors to native peoples. This will enable Indian people to preserve and maintain their unique culture and community.

In fiscal year 1995, Congress appropriated \$19.4 million in start-up moneys for the Cultural Resources Center. For fiscal year 1996, however, the House did not provide any funds